

Beneficiary Advisory Council and Medicaid Advisory Committee Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Beneficiary Advisory Committee (BAC)?

A new federal rule created a group called the Beneficiary Advisory Committee (BAC) in [42 CFR 431.12](#). The BAC gives advice about Medicaid to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) and Department for Medicaid Services (DMS). The group discusses how to make Medicaid better and how it should work. People who used to be members or are current members, along with their parents, guardians or caregivers can be a part of the BAC.

What is the Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)?

The Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) helps CHFS and DMS with ideas about how to improve and run the Medicaid program. The MAC includes providers, healthcare advocates and members of the BAC. The MAC was originally created under [KRS 205.540](#) as the Advisory Council on Medical Assistance. It has been changed to meet the new rules in [42 CFR 431.12](#).

If I am not a member of the MAC or the BAC, can I be involved in any of the MAC and/or BAC meetings?

Yes, members of the community may join the meetings. The dates and times of meetings that are open to the public are posted on the website. An agenda for each meeting is also posted prior to the meeting. To receive emails about the MAC and BAC meetings, [subscribe](#) to the Medicaid distribution list.

Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)

Who can be part of the BAC?

BAC members are people who are currently, or have been, on Medicaid. They can also be the parents, guardians, or caregivers (paid or unpaid) who help those who have Medicaid.

How do I apply for the BAC?

DMS will post applications and instructions on how to apply on the [BAC website](#) when there are openings. People should sign up [here](#) to receive email updates about future chances to apply.

How many members are on the BAC?

There are fifteen (15) members on the BAC. Ten (10) are current or former Medicaid members and five (5) are parents, guardians, or caregivers of people who use Medicaid.

How long will a member serve on the BAC?

Members were picked for a two-year, three-year, or four-year term at first to make sure members do not end their terms at the same time. After the terms of the first BAC members end, new members will serve a four-year term. People cannot serve two terms in a row, but they can serve again four (4) years after their term ends.

How are BAC members chosen?

The DMS Commissioner and other leaders review the applications and select members. They look for members who can speak for the different Kentucky Medicaid programs and the people who use them. They also make sure to pick people from all across the state so that many voices and communities were included.

Did DMS choose people differently for the first round of appointments?

There were three (3) people on the previous Advisory Committee who were chosen to be on the BAC without having to fill out an application. Everyone else filled out an application and was chosen by the DMS Commissioner and other leaders. For future appointments, everyone will have to fill out an application.

What kind of support will DMS give to people who serve on the BAC and/or the MAC?

The DMS team will help everyone by providing training, language services, personal help, and resources so that everyone on the committee can join the meetings. Medicaid members, past members, parents, and caregivers who are not getting paid might have their costs covered. DMS will work with BAC and MAC members to find the support they need to take part.

Will there be another chance to apply for the BAC?

Yes, all the first terms will be different so that there will be more chances to apply to be on the committee. DMS will post applications and instructions on how to apply on the [BAC website](#) when there are openings. DMS will also send an email to the Medicaid distribution list. Sign up [here](#) to receive email updates.

How do the BAC meetings work?

There will be at least four BAC meetings every year. The meetings can last from one (1) hour to three (3) hours and will mostly talk about Kentucky Medicaid services. The BAC must meet before the MAC meets. Seven (7) members of the BAC will also be on the MAC.

When will the meetings start?

DMS will work with the new members to set up meetings. The first meeting will probably be in September 2025.

Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

Why are you making changes to the current Advisory Council for Medical Assistance?

A new federal rule made some changes to 42 CFR 431.12, which regulates Medicaid advisory committees. These changes include who can be on the committee, how meetings are held, and the creation of a new report that is written every year.

Who is on the MAC?

Some organizations and individuals who are part of the Advisory Council for Medical Assistance per KRS 205.540 are keeping their positions. DMS added members to follow the new federal rules. New members include a person from the Kentucky Association of Health Plans, which represents Medicaid managed care organizations; additional people who are current or former Medicaid members or their parents, guardians, or caregivers; and leaders of state agencies that serve Medicaid members.

How do I apply for the MAC?

DMS will post applications and instructions on how to apply on the [MAC website](#) when there are openings. People should sign up [here](#) to receive email updates about future chances to apply.

How many people are on the MAC?

There are thirty-one (31) members:

- Five (5) people who lead a state agency that serves Medicaid members. These are also called ex-officio members;
- Fourteen (14) members chosen by an organization;
- Five (5) healthcare advocates who represent consumer advocacy groups; and
- Seven (7) members from the BAC. The federal rule says that at least 25% of the MAC members must also be on the BAC.

How long will members serve on the MAC?

Members were picked for a two-year, three-year, or four-year term at first to make sure members do not end their terms at the same time.

After the terms of the first MAC members end, new members will be appointed for a four-year term.

People cannot serve two (2) terms in a row, but they can serve again four (4) years after their term ends.

If a person was on the KRS 205.540 Advisory Council for Medical Assistance, did they automatically become a member of the MAC?

Medicaid members who were on the Advisory Council for Medical Assistance were asked if they would like to keep serving under the new MAC and also serve on the new BAC. If they wanted to, they were automatically chosen to be on the MAC and the BAC.

Healthcare advocates and people from professional organizations whose terms ended after July 8, 2025 were automatically chosen to be on the MAC. Those automatically chosen did not have to fill out an application.

If there was an empty position or there was someone with an expired term on the KRS 205.540 Advisory Council for Medical Assistance, how was it filled on the MAC?

Each person had to apply for the position through an online application, saving a PDF version and sending by email, or by printing it out and sending it in the mail.

If the position was being nominated by an organization, that organization sent the nominee(s) to DMS, who made the final choice.

If the position was for a healthcare advocate, a current/former Medicaid member, or a parent, guardian or caregiver position, DMS looked at all the applications and made their choice.

How did DMS decide who was picked for the MAC?

New members were chosen by the DMS Commissioner and other leaders after reviewing applications. DMS chose members who can speak for the different Kentucky Medicaid programs and the people who use them. They also picked people from all across the state so that many areas were represented.

After this initial selection period, will there be another chance to apply for the MAC?

Yes, all the first terms are different so that there will be more chances to apply to be on the committee later. DMS will post applications and instructions on how to apply on the [MAC website](#) when there are openings. People should sign up [here](#) to receive email updates about future chances to apply.

How does the MAC work?

There will be at least four (4) MAC meetings every year. The meetings will last from one (1) hour to three (3) hours. The MAC can only meet after the BAC meets.

When will the meetings start?

DMS will work with the new members to set up meetings. The first meeting is probably in September 2025.

Technical Advisory Committees (TACs)

Will there be changes to the [Technical Advisory Committees \(TACs\)](#)?

There are no changes to the TACs.